Media Media

World's Greatest

Printing Office

world-wide expansion. Uncle Sam is now cludes every man, woman and child in building at the Capital of the Nation the Quaker City, the average weight of the globe. Work upon this huge struc- These figures are compiled from the offiand today is about two-thirds completed. Who says that the floors are designed for corner of North Capitol and G Streets, uniformly distributed. and one-half acres of ground.

There is also a storage vault extending foot, or a total of 50,600,000 pounds under the sidewalk along the entire length and width of the building.

In the erection of this structure 12,700,-600 pounds of structural steel have been have been utilized in construction be- quality of material and workmanship, tween 11,000,000 and 12,000,000 bricks, There will also have been employed 4,000,-600 pounds of iron and brass fittings, and over 800,000 feet of hardwood flooring.

Would Lay Railroad to Baltimore. The structural steel in this establishment, if wrought into rails, would lay a railway track a distance of forty-three and for the health and comfort of the miles. It would build three gizantic employes. bridges across the Potomac River at Washington. From it and from the other iron and the brass fittings could be con- employed in its erection from 150 to 600 structed seventy-four locomotives of the | men, skilled and unskilled laborers, me-

most powerful type. The building is to be equipped with its own heating and lighting plants, embracing within its walls a power house from which could be generated sufficient heat, illumiration, and general commercial power for a city of 7,000 inhabitants. There will be in this structure 6,000 incandescent lights, while in the neighborhood of 100 are lamps will be used in and around per day, though in some instances apethe building. Some idea of what this number of electric lights means will be | disclosed when it is stated that cities like Richmond and Atlanta, with nearly 100,-600 population each; illuminate their entire street systems with less than 300 arc

To Be Finished Next Fall.

The structure will be finished some time next fall, and within twelve months will. house the 4,000 mechanical operatives of that great branch of the Federal service knews as the Government Printing Office. It will be more nearly fireproof than any building of its character in the world. It was found necessary that this should be the case, not only because of the thousands of tons of paper, cardboard, and like material, and of oils and inks, but because of the fact that the Government desired to throw every element of safety around the thousands of men and women who will earn their livelihood within its

It was decided in 1898, after a prolonged and bitter controversy, to creet the new Government Printing Office on the site where it is now building, and Congress, on March 3, 1839 authorized its erection under the direction and supervision of white-faved bricks. A few rooms, used for the Chief of Engineers of the Army and office purposes, will be plastered, and the the Public Printer. Congress at this time | main entrance will be finished in plaster appropriated \$350,000 toward the execution of the work, the total cost of which on the main walls, enameled bricks will was not to exceed \$2,000,000.

In order to meet the increased prices vator walls, and tollet recens. of building material, and of making the yesterday made the statement that the this sum and that probably quite a fairsized amount would be left in the Treasury from the appropriation.

Capt. John S. Sewell in Charge. Immediately upon the passage of the law authorizing the construction of this great printing establishment, which was to be a marvel in matters of detail, apportionment, and magnitude, Capt. John Stephen Sewell, who was then a lieutenant in the Army Corps of Engineers and an expert in such matters, was, by the authority of the Secretary of War, placed in direct charge of the work. J. G. Hill, an architect of national reputation, was selected to prepare the plans and draw-

By July 6, 1899, all of the old buildings contract for excavation was awarded. be admitted under the window sills and of his fast requests was that his body be Work began at once. Probably no gigan-deflected by a baffle-plate through the wrapped in the flag. He was buried at Government had been augmented by the at the top will ensure draft. taking into the territory of the United pletion of the building.

Progress of the Construction.

turni and architectural plans had been completed except as to some details of were well advanced; the steel frame

Today the foundations, the underground drains, and the huge steel frame are complete. And the massive granite and brick walls have been built as high as the tifth floor. About 85 per cent of all plans and drawings have been done, and considerable progress has been made upon such could be commenced before the building

Steel, Stone, and Bricks.

It can be said of the new Government Printing Office that it is being constructed almost entirely of steel, stone, bricks and cement. The only woodwork will be the flooring and the doors. All door and window frames will be of castiron, and, the event of fire, a door could burn to the frame, but the flames could go no farther. The whole interior of the building is to be finished with glazed and pressed brick.

The most remarkable feature of this edifice is that it is so substantially constructed as to be capable of bearing a live load of 120,000,000 pounds. In other words, if the entire population of the city of Philadelphia could be packed \$962,667,99. within its walls at one time it would not

In keeping with the national policy of cause the building to collapse. This in most gigantic printing catablishment on whom would be about seventy pounds. ture commoneed in the summer of 1839, cial estimate made by Captain Sewell, The building is located at the northwest a live lead of 500 pounds per square foot,

and its massive frame of steel, which is | The total floor area being more than filled in with granity and brick as high 400,000 square feet, the calculation is a as the fifth story, sprends itself over nine simple one. The engineer in charge adds that his estimate of strength of the struc-The edilice is 408 fest lang by 175 feet 3 | ture is based upon the specification that inches wide, and is seven stories high, in the structure must be capable of standaddition to the barement and an attic. ing a dend load of 125 pounds per square

The massive character of the machinery to be operated in this gigantic print ery made it necessary for the Governmen to require an unusually high unit strain used, and, when completed, there will in the steel work, and the very highest

All Modern Improvements.

In addition to steam heat, electric light and power, interior telephone and miarm NONE BURIED AT WASHINGTON. ystems, cleverors, stand-pipes and water anks, there will be installed in the tructure every provision for the safe and speedy exit in case of fire or panic.

Since work was commenced on this man moth edifice there have been constantly chantes, and experts in special lines of

The various branches of work base been arried on under the contract system, the bricklaying excepted, each job being closely inspected and passed upon as it propressed by the army expert in charge. The men employed on the building receive wages ranging from \$1.50 to \$4.50 cially skilled mechanics are paid far in

Red Brick and Sandstone,

The exterior finish of the building is of but most of them not promed-with a sand finish except in the interior court, and a considerable amount of prosment-1 terra cotta. The cut-stone and oranmental terra colta cost more than it was fice-Harrison, Taylor, Lincoln, Garfield, thought it would, but the estimate was and McKinley-cely the first two mot based on a general idea, and not on actual death in the White House. The elder knowledge of what would be required.

The saving on the steel contract, however, annhied the architect's plans to be adopted without change, providing for a much better building than it was originally intended to construct. Mr. Hill's detign is a very simple and dignified one, and does not contain any excess of orma-

The Interior Decorations

Inside the building the walls will be finished with a dado of ornamental bricks about six feet high, and above that the and marble. In addition to these dadoes he used to line all stairway walls, ele- River.

An improved feature of the interior of it. south end of the power house extension the structure will be that all stairway the same height as the main building, walls will be shut off from the main the limit of cost was incremed to \$2,420. building from top to bottom by brick 600. The engineer in charge of the work | walls, having only one fireproof door for | Genfederate Congress. "Doctor, I am gontion at each floor level. giant edifice would be completed within brick work is being laid in Fortland ce- hope not, sir," was the answer. "Perhaps add to the rigidity of the finished struc-

Cast from baseboards are to be used throughout the bull-ling and corner guards of cast fron will be used on all salient angles of brick work to prevent chipping by trucks. The elevator pits will be lined with cast from tanks, and the weather surface of the roof will be of vitrified tiles laid in Neuchatel asphalt. All floors of working rooms will be finished in hard maple, laid in blocks in Neuchatel asphalt. All the doors, except those for the executive offices, will be

The system of heating adopted is the dion the ground had been removed, and on rect-indirect. Colls will be placed in July 10 proposals were opened and the pockets under the windows, fresh air will tic structure ever went up with such coils and into the building. Large venrapidity. The great and growing increase tilating shafts carried up through the volume of printed matter neces- centre of the rooms will have registermary in the conduct of the affairs of the opening into each story, and exhaust fans in

It is realized by those in charge of the States of its insular possessions and the construction of the building that this evaextension of its authority over the island tem is not as perfect as an indirect sysof Cuba, and it was necessary to push to tem, with fans to force the fresh warm its speedlest possible conclusion the com- air into the rooms through properly arranged ducts, but the space required for blowers and indirect colls in the base-Such progress had been made by the ment and for ducts through the building last of November, 1900, that all the struc- | could not be spared, and it was necessary

to select the next best plan. The fresh air inlets are provided with interior finish; plans for the mechanical strong and simple dampers, whereby they equipment, plumbing, wiring, clevators, can be wholly or partially closed. This precaution, together with the positive ac as high as the third story was nearly all tion of the exhaust fans, will make the in place; the masonry of the basement system more successful here than it has story and the endorground newerage work | been in many cases where too much cold were nearly finished, and the fireproof pir was admitted in severe weather, and construction had been satisfactorily be- the inlets have been wholly and permamently closed by the occupants of the tion in comble

Water Filtered and Cooled. The employes in the new edifice for the

Government Printing Office will be provided with filtered and cooled water for drinking, which will be kept continuously circulating through pipes, with taps at enverient points.

The condition of the appropriations by Congress for the new Government Printing Office on October 1 last was as fol-

Amount appropriated March 3, 1839 Amount appropriated June 6, 1980, \$775,

Amount appropriated March 3, 1991, \$1, Total, \$2,429,000.

Balance unexpended, \$1,473,841.39. Outstanding liabilities, \$119,614.02. Amount covered by existing contracts,

Amount expended, \$955,158.61.

Batance available to complete the work,

Below are given some of the most in- about shop'!'-Tit-Bits.

teresting items in connection with the ost of the structure up to October 1: Structural steel, at 37-10 cents per pound, the contract providing for two coats of paint, \$473.279.62; concrete, \$16,-116.28; exe vation and earth-filling, \$27 32.33; shering and underplaning, \$8,35L85 Brepreeding, \$58,546.16; brick work, \$79,-650.65; out stone and ornamental terra cotin, \$21,516.65; door and window frames. \$40,006.46; heating and ventilating, \$11,-456.55; tools working plant and temporary buildings, \$17,201.58; pay of our toyes on building for helidays, etc., \$5. 992.49; materials purchased but not in place, \$115,217.02

Under the head of contingencies, which include architect's fees, preparation of plans and office expenses, a little less cavation work included the removal of 42 -010 cubic yards of earth, while 7,282 cubic creetion of the building thus far. A later of the virgin forests. "Woodman rough estimate of the number of linear of pipe of all descriptions indicates that there will be in the building when completed enough piping to lay a line from Washington to Baltimore. The total work represents fifty-six separate contracts between the United States Covernment and the various firms participating in the construction of the building,

RESTING PLACES OF THE PRESIDENTS.

Their Graves Scattered From One End of the Country to the Other -Two Only Breathed Their last at the Sent of Government.

Not a single President & buried at Washington. An Englishman can visit. the tombs of almost every English soves within a few hours. They lie at Winchester, at Westminster, and at Windsor. But only two cemeteries in the United States contain the bodies of more than one President. The Adamses both He in the yard of the First Congregational Tyler are buried in Hollywood Cemetery,

Richmond, Va. The Presidential burial places are scattered from New Hampshire on the north hand-made ged bricks-A few pressed, to Virginia on the south, and from Illinois to the Atlantic coast. Five are buried in Virginia, four in New York and in where an almost white-faced brick is Ohio, three in Tennessee, two in Massaused to improve the light. The red brick | churetts, and one in New Hampshire, Kenwill be trimmed with Maynard sandstone. tucky, Pennsylvania, Indiana, and Illinois Five Died in Office.

Of the five Presidents who died in of-Harrison was first buried in the Capital, but his body was removed later to North

Washington lies at his old home at Mount Vernon, where he died. Thomas Jefferson was buried at his home estate, Monticello, Vs. A cemetery at Montpeller, Va., contains the ashes of Madison. The death of Audrew Jackson took place at the Hermitage, his home in Tennassee. After the expiration of his term James K. Folk went to Nashville, Tenn., but lived only a few months. The burial was at Nashville. Van Buren died at his countries of the countrie at Nashville. Van Buren died at his cour try home at Kinderhook, N. Y., and was buried from the old Dutch Church there. Pneumonia caused the death of William Henry Harrison a month after his inaugu ration. He was buried in the Congressional Cemetery, but a few years later the body was removed to North Bend, Ohio, to a temb overlooking the Ohio River. The grave was neglected until the State of Ohio erected a monument above

Tyler's Last Words.

His successor, Tyler, died at the Exbuilding from top to bottom by brick change Hotel, Richmond, a member of the ment mertar to prevent shrinkage, and it is best," the dying man replied, and did

not speak again.

Taylor died during his term of office at the White House. His last words were:
"I am about to die. I expect the summons soon. I have endeavored to diecharge all my official duties faithfully. I regret nothing, but I am sorry that I am about to leave my friends. His body was put in a vault at Washington, from which it was removed to Springfield, five miles from Louisville, Ky.

Millard Fillmore was buried at Buffalo, where he died. The body of Franklin Pierce lies at Concerd, N. H., and that James Buchanan at Lancaster, Pa. His

Johnson's Final Request.

Lincoln died without speaking after he was shot. His body rests in Oak Ridge Cemetery at Springfield, Ill. Andrew Johnson died at Carter's Depot, Tenn. One

General Grant died at Mount McGregor, N. Y., and his body lies in the fine tomb at Riverside Park. Mr. Hayes was buried at Fremont, Ohio, where he died. Gar-field's body lies at the base of the monu-ment in Lake View Cemetery, Cleveland, within sight of Lake Erle and only a few

miles from his home at Menter. Chester A. Arthur died in New York City only a year after the end of his term. A rew days before his death he said to Commissioner Fish: "After all, life 1 not worth fighting for, and I might as wel give up the struggle for it now as any other time and submit to the inevitable. He is buried at Albany, N. Y., where finely sculptured figure guards his temb Benjamin Harrison died at his home in Indianapolis in March, and is buried in

HE WOULDN'T TALK SHOP. rance of Sir Walter Scott.

"Very interesting scenery, sir," said a Londoner to a grim looking Scot on board "I'm pleased ye think sac," nnewered

Replete with Setorical associations. "Maybe; but I dinna ken enything about

"Surely, sir, you have rend the works of your great countryman, Sir Walter Scott, the "Winard of the North?"" "Sir Walter Scott? Wha was he?"

"Sir, this is perfectly incredible. You Scotchman, and never heard of the man he wrote the Waverley novels. "Marion," 'The Lady of the Lake,' and all that sort of thing!

that sort of thing!"

The Scot only shook his head.

Two disgusted cocking turned away with an expression of contempt for such gross ignorance, and an individual who had overheard the conversation, blushing for his uninformed compatriot, took an op-portunity of asking whether his confession was netually true. "Toot, man," was the testy reply, "I didna want to hear ony o' that English idlot's santimental bletherin', Heard of

Watty Scott! Fer the last twelve month

I've had enough of Sir Waiter Scott, and his novels, too. I'm a printer's reader, and our firm have been printin' a new edition o' his works. I'm on my holidays, man, and cauna be bothered speaking

CHRISTMAS TREES FOR THE CAPITAL.

THE TRADE HAS A BRIEF SEASON.

and Colored Hucksters Chiefly Engaged in It-Largest Harvest of Greens Gathered in Nearby Counties of Maryland.

Now is the season when the man with the hoe has gone way tack and seated imself. Enter the man with the an, for this is the Christman time, and a large crop of Christmas trees is ripe, and awaiting the onslaught of the depopuspare that) tree," doesn't go with the country lad and his batchet. He is already out for evergreens and holly, and out which no Christmas would be a suc

"Where do all the Christmas trees ome from?" Ask that question of the average man, who, every 24th of December starts out with the purchase price In his pockets to buy one, and he will look at you in amazement. "Why, they

just grow," the average man will say. To get at the real solution of the roblem it is necessary to ask the old mele or aunty on the street line of the Sentre Market. They can tell you, and although they also will be likely to say, 'dey jest grows" it is always possible to et at the exact geographical location of he Christmas tree country by a little

areful questioning That there is a Christmas tree country s true, and that from which is drawn the supply of evergreen for the Washington markets Hes so near the Capital that a short walk into the woods of either Maryland or Virginia will take one lato its very heart in the course of an afternoon's stroll. The thousands of trees used at Christmas time to gladden the hearts of the Washington juvenile believers in Santa Claus, come principally from Prince George and Chaarles countier, Maryland, and Fairfax and Loudoun counties, Vir-

round the Capital with a proper spirit of Christman is a question not easily answered. The figures would run up into the thousands, for the population of Washington is large, so large that there are approximately 69,000 fan. Hes here. Not every family is blessed at Christmas with a Christmas tree, but almost every one is, and it is safe to say that wherever the baby is found, not far away on Christman morning will be a gally bedeeked

Fifteen Cents to a Dollar.

The average price of a Christman tree, n good condition, and not left over from last season, is 50 cents.

Some of the fine, tall, and straight spruce pines which come from a distance, the aristocrats, as it were, of the Christmas tree family, forch higher prices, and many are the householders who will gladly pay from \$1 to \$3 for a fragrant and healthy tree of this variety.

Of the commoner kinds of trees, those which are, however, symmetrical in shape, and excellently green in color, many fine specimens can be purchased for a quarter, and even less money, sometimes, will induce the darkey proprietor of the lond of trees to transfer his prop-

erty to the front parlor. Throughout Maryland and Virginia the sound of the ax will soon be heard. The time is now near at hand when Christmas trees will be in great demand, and mand when his own place produc

acres of the proper size and shape. A Centre Market Seene.

It is not a good plan, however, to cut the trees too soon, so that the first are being felled about now, and only a few loads have already been imported. The trees are brought into the city much in the same way that vegetables are carted during the summer, by wagon. And a ger wagon will hold so many trees, big and little, good, bad, and indifferent, that it is surprising sometimes to see what a heavy load can be drawn by one or two

Every good Washingtonian knows where the Christmas trees are carried when they reach the city. The triangular block wherein is the statue of General Rawlins, on the Avenue, just in front of the big market, is the place which each year is taken possession of by the dealers in evergreens of all kinds, and it is to be doubted whether there is, in the whole country, a more picturesque spot than this one, when masses of trees are stacked high upon the pavements on both sides of the Avenue, and of Louisiana Avenue as well.

For several days before Christman properly begins, and Christman really starts a good week before the 25th of December, a brisk and good-natured trade is carried on at this particular square be tween the dealer on the one hand and the busy housewife on the other.

Pater Famalias Enters.

As the great day approaches the father of the family, who, up to this time, has scorned to enter into the intense excite- can. ment of the momentous event, is not too proud to be seen bargaining for wreather and Christmas trees, while on the very night before Christmas he so far fergets himself as to be proud to bear through the streets upon his shoulder the creen badge of the courage of his wife's convictions.

Of Christmas trees, such as are found in Washington, there are, properly speak-ing, three kinds, the fir or the pine, the hemlock, which belongs to the same (ami ly; the cedar, and the holly, the prettiest and most characteristic tree which grows preferably those bearing many cones, are the commonest species used as "Christhe regaining much of the great popularity which it pessessed some years ago. The spruce pine is the handsomest of that family. The helly is used more for strictly decorative purpose, although many trees of this kind are sold.

wered the query as to why codar trees are invariably used at the Christmas entertainments of the various Sunday schools, yet it is true that this variety i by far the most popular. That the cedar is tall and alim, and makes a good showing without taking up much space horlzontally, is probably the solution. The cedar and the pine usually are found in the same locality, so that Christmas tree hunting is rendered less difficult than it would otherwise be. Down in Prince George county, not far with a plank."

Christmas tree country around Washingon, and a scrub pine country is always beautiful. A tramp through the woods at this time of the year, when the odor of the pine is heavy in the air, will do a can more good than any medicine. Here,

within sight of the dome of the Capitol, cerning eye of the farmer lad, to grace the Washington home during the festive week awarded to Christmas.

These which grow scattered are the only ones fitted for the especial honor

riven them. Pines which grow closely acked together branch out at the top, the palms, and are good only for timber surposes. But when the trees are sparse, not when they are able to have plenty of warm sun on all sides, then they grow a their perfection, and it is from such these that the supply for this city is

orawn.

In Fairfax county, in the neighborhood of Falls Church, and, in fact, throughout all the woods across the Potomac, near Washington, the proper Christmas tree is found in great profusion. They reach the city by way of the farmers' wagons, and they are the means of many silver coins finding their way into the thrifty pocket of the son of the soil. So good is the supply of trees in the immediate neighborhood of the city that it is not necessary for many to be brought in by train or boat, although a few from a dis tance are so shipped.

WHERE THE PISTOL IS WHICH BOOTH USED.

HELD BY THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

Has Not Been Out of Its Possession Since the Conspirators Against the Life of Lincoln and Others Were Tried.

Colonel Calboun M. Deringer, of 1619 pruce Street, takes issue with Architect George Plowman on the interesting question of Mr. Plowman's ownership of the pistol with which J. Wilkes Booth shot President Lincoln.

Soon after the assaudnation of President McKinley Mr. Plowman was quoted in the "North American" as saying that he had the Booth weapon in his possession He sald that after shooting the President, Booth in his nervous excitement dropped the pistol on the stage of Ford's theatre

Washington. kept it for some time. Then he gave It to George K. Goodwin, manager of the playhouse. Mr. Goodwin and Mr. Plawman vere associated in the theatrical business for many years, the latter having designed twenty theatres and owned several.

The Plowman Pistol.

When Mr. Goodwin died Mr. Plowman noted as executor of the estate. As he a "right of way" for a Western railroad, service Mrs. Goodwin gave Mr. Plowman the Deringer as a token of her friendship a favorite with all the men. She was and appreciation. It bears a plate inscribed with this name: "J. Wilkes Booth." The spring of the trigger has lost much of its strength, and the portion

Colenel Deringer, a member of the family which for many years manufactured the famous weapons bearing the family name, says that he once before had oc-casion to look into the matter, and that when the Plowman claim was put forth again he decided to get official data to back his statements.

An Official Statement.

He has just received this letter from the Assistant Secretary of War. crop of trees, carefully selected for the market, is ready for harvest, and the and 2d instant, in which you request cortain information concerning the pistol with which President Lincoln was assas-simated, I beg to inform you that the wea-pon in question is in the office of the the truck farmer who handles the article Judge Advocate General of the Army and for a few days each winter, is not the kind af man to fall in satisfying the demilitary community communit spirators were received for file, the pistol having been found just after the assau-sination on the floor of the box occupied

by the President. by the President.

"It does not have the name of Booth on any part of it, but has the letter "P" on the left side of the barrel, the words "Deringer, Philadel." in front of the lear sight, and the same words in rear of the hammer on the lock plate."

Speaking of the matter Colonel Derin-

Colonel Deringer's Story. "I propose now effectually to settle this ant's ambition by my statement and the letter which I hand you for publication from the Assistant Secretary of War o me which I just received from him This full and explicit letter, I presume

will put a quietus on this claim.

"The facts are that the spurious pistol may have been made, as claimed, at Kreider's gun shop, Second and Walnut Streets, but not the genuine Deringer which shot the President, for that was made at the old factory in the Northern Liberties, where all the Deringer fire-arms were made for the Indian and War Departments and individuals from the year 1805 down to the death of the inons inventor of the world-renowned s and pistols familiarly called the

The gun barrels were always stamped Deringer, Phila., on the breech of the barrel, and on the side of the lock plate, as stated by the Assistant Secretary of to be on the pistol in his depart The letter 'P' referred to on th barrel means 'proved,' and was always stamped on each barrel after they were tested and proved. There is a little capox in the butt of the pistol. When I co amined it there were two percussion caps n it, left there by Booth, that had not been used."—Philadelphia North Ameri-

Prof. Munsterberg, of Harvard, whose specialty is psychology, relies to some xtent on the point of a good story in enforcing his positions in abstract demor stration. He has one on the association of ideas that will illustrate. A medieva and placed in the pot, with a certain por lon of water, and the whole shaken dil old provided that during the hour the rater should not think of a hippopol-is. The faker sold a great many for flour sums, and not one of the pur-sers ever commanded a return of the The faker knew his business. He was in advance of his age in psychology, in his skill in permanently fixing in his usiomers' minds the association of that id pot and a hippopotamus.

Laundering in the Philippines.

An American sojourner in the Philipines says in a recent letter to friends at home: "I want to go home. I want some washing done. To show you how ad, I zend you under separate cover a and, I zend you under separate cover a andkerchief and collar just back from he laundry. Take the handkerchief out and bury it, and save the collar as a souvenir. They don't pretend to get the lift out of your clothes here. They take them down to the river, hard water and partly salt, souse them in, take then out, lay them on boards, and with stones bat them full of holes and pound the Then they smooth them out

Pointed Anecdotes



Well-Known Men

Kruger's Hatred of English Language.

terest in several mines there, and so A claim was put in for damages, but was sanguine were the members of the HI- not allowed until during the session of Republic was going to be overthrown to only \$1,000, and is to be paid very and a new Anglo-Saxon era ushered in soon. There are nine heirs, among them that they and the rich syndicates they represented were anxious to absorb all available mining property. Mr. Wiltsee was willing to sell out, and by the time his former colleagues had landed ingloriously in jail at Pretoria he had arrived in New York with a fortune of a parter of a million. Later investments

"Kruger is a strange old man," said | matters before the Supreme Court, regis-Mr. Wiltsee, "He understands English, tered at the New Willard during the but refuses to speak it, saying that he will not converse in a tongue in which so much treachery has been couched. Johannesburg, you know, is virtually, and always has been, an English city. The Boer commissioner of streets as a public accommodation put up street signs with the abbreviation 'St.' after each name. Kruger heard of it and ordered him to go over every sign and make them read Str.,' the abbreviation for strasse.

in Colorado and Mexico have multiplied

his thousands.

Mr. Wiltsee has spent much time reently in City of Mexico. "Baron Ludovic Moncheur, your new Minister from Belgium, was a great favorite in the social circles of the Mexican capital," said Mr. Wiltsee, "and I predict for him an equally crilliant career in Washington."

as he is al-

Clever Financial Strategy.

sally called, is his honor, man of singular reticence, but he can tell a good story when he is in the mood. One of his anecdotes relates to the time when he was an obscure contractor. With of \$13.50, exclutined the judge, 'and his other contractors engaged in constructing declined to accept compensation for his Mr. Hill was stopping at a co-operative boarding house. Mary, the waitress, was

> neat, demure, and obliging. One night as they sat around the stove one of the contractors startled his companions by announcing that Mary was going to be married.

"She has been a good girl," he went on, and I propose that we make up a handome wedding present for her.' So saying he took off his hat, tossed a couple of twenty-dollar pieces into it, and

passed it around. Everyone contributed liberally. When it was counted the sum was found to amount to nearly \$800. The contractor who had made the ancouncement was appointed a committee

of one to make the presentation of the wedding gift with the compliments and steem of the donors. "The next day," says President Hill, he married the girl himself. It was a clever piece of financial strategy, and it has often been a wonder to me why he has not risen in the world."

Boyhood of "Fighting Bob."

fax County, Virginia, tells some interest- re-editing of his books and the assembling ing stories about his kinsman. They of his magazine articles. pent their boyhood days together. Mr. Stewart says the admiral as a boy was merrily, when interviewed; 'why, I have not engaged in many fights, largely because of the wholesome fear he inspired.

"Even before the proud day when he first donned long trousers, 'Bob' was noted in our neighborhood for his will power. He wasn't much of a talker as a boy, but and relates many interesting stories about what he said he meant, and everybody that scientist and philosopher. who knew him knew that he meant it. I remember that one of the bigger boys, Bud Zandt, picked me out as a mark and annoyed and threatened me. I told Bob about it. He didn't reply, but his face they found to henor had been achieved changed color. Bud was a head taller since his forty-ninth year. All his studies than Bob, but the latter was sturdily and activities prior to that age he re-

built. The next time they met, Bob garded merely as preparation. marched right up to him, and said: "I understand that you've been picking n Charlie; I want you to stop it, and if in vision, the blind spot or punctum you don't stop it,' he added, thrusting his | caecum of the eye, LeConte would use two doubled fist in Bud's face, 'T'll run this deadly weapon clear through you.' Bud on the table before him until, in keeping faltered an apology, and afterward always with the optical law, they disappeared, took great pains to be exceedingly pleas- and then, when moved still farther, re-

"All but one of the admiral's relatives, ontinued Mr. Stewart, "were with the South in the great cor Sict, eleven of them fighting in the ranks of the Confederate blind spot for money."

Mr. E. A. army. The one loyal member of our fam-Wiltsco. of My. in addition to the admiral, was my Denver, was a grandmother. In the midst of Southern guest at the sympathirers and soldiers, she hoisted the New Willard Stars and Stripes over her farmhouse, and for several in spite of warnings, managed to keep days during the week just passed. Mr. the Union flag there. In the retreat of Wiltsee was in Johannesburg just before the Northern armies from the first batthe Jameson raid in 1896. He held an in- the of Bull Run, her farm was despotted. starred reform committee that the Boer | Congress last winter. The bill amounts Admiral Evans, and he with the rest of us will receive \$111.11." Judge W. H.

Primitive Justice In Idaho.

Heyburn, of Wallace. Idaho, who comes to Washington on

week. "Contrary to Eastern impressions." said Judge Heyburn, "we are developing quite a high state of civilization in Idaho. It is not so very long ago, however, that onditions were rather crude in our parts, We had a judge on the bench out there who was an unterrified product, I assure you. He had never read law, but had picked up in some mining camp a copy of the statutes of British Columbia, and he adjudicated cases by that code, and some of his rolings were bizarre. One day a chicken peddler drifted that way from another State, and was promptly arrested,

" You are fined \$50 for selling chickens without a license,' said the judge, when he had heard the evidence. 'But I haven't that much money."

walled the defendant. President "'Make it twenty-five, then,' declared James J. Hill, the judge. or "Jim" Hill, " 'I haven't even that amount," faltered

the peddler. " 'How much have you got?' demanded

" 'Jest thirteen dollars and fifty cents," replied the defendant. "The prisoner is ordered to pay a fine

chickens are confinented to the court." "That night a penniless peddler went sobbing out of the village, and an unworthy judge regaled himself and his friends on the appropriated fowl. I am glad to add that a higher sense of justice

A Philosopher's

now prevails in Idaho."

Col. John P. Irish, naval officer of the port of San Francisco, bas been in Wash-

ington for the past two weeks on Federal business. "I was much interested," he said, "In the anecdote printed in The Times in regard to the late Dr. Joseph LeConte, of the University of California. In my opinion, LeConte was one of the greatest scientists of modern times. So varied were his accomplishments that it now requires three learned professors to take his place. He was a man of remarkable energy and enthusiasm. Although eighty years of age, he was conducting a nummer school in geology and goology in the Sierras at the time of his death, in July of this year. LeConte was not a be-

A cousin of Hever in unalert and slippered old age. Rear Admiral | "When he had reached the age of three E v a n s , score and ten a San Francisco paper Charles D. N. printed the rumor that he had decided to Stewart, who resign from the University of California lives in Fair- and devote his remaining years to the

"'Resign!' exclaimed the professor.

just begun my life's work." Prof. Victor Chestnut, of the Department of Agriculture, who is regarded as one of the best authorities in America on poisonous plants, studied under LeConte-

Two years ago at a banquet given

LeConte in Germany by the faculty of the

University of Heidelberg, LeConte made the statement that whatever in his life In his class room he frequently indulged in humor. In Blustrating in his course coins, moving them in opposite directions

turned to sight. "Go home and try it," he would say; "but, if unsuccessful, use some objects other than coins. Some people have no

NO IVORY CHOPSTICKS.

Black Bamboo Kind. Nothing is so repugnant to the mind of the free-born American as class distinction, whether of blood or of wealth, but certain of our fereign population do not

ave this aversion. "We were dining in Chinatown," continued the man who looks about him, and, being thorough Bohemians, we corned the forks that our mothers aught us to use and ordered chopsticks. We were cating contentedly, if not grace-

ACTORS MEET EMERGENCIES.

Americans Could Only Have the They Sometimes Have to Improvise Specches to Savosthe Play.

"One of the cleverest pieces of work I ever saw," said an old theatrical manager, company Charles Wyndham brought over here a number of years ago. They were for it to fall off in his lap in full sight of the audience. That would have spoiled the illusion of the play. Well, the actor and pained the guates as neatly as you please. No one in the amilence noticed it. I believe except myself, who have a professional ere for that sort of thing. fancied most in the large dish that adorned the centre of the table, and which contained the menu for the entire party, we noticed that he had beautiful lyory chopsticks. Ours were of hambon, painted black. We beckened the head watter, and he came up with his smile, celebrated in song.

"I said: 'Charles (I abject to all Chinamen being called John), get us some lyory chopsticks they are the prefitest things I ever saw.

"Charles said 'No! No lvly chopsticks."

"Why, Charles, those fellows over there have them, Why can't we?"

"They eat allx dollar dinner; you eat." there have them. Why can't we? It is and improvised a speech the substance of which was the same as the one Whentslixty clent dinner, was his reasonable reply,"—New York Mail and Express.